

Town of Wenham

Selectmen / Town Administrator TEL 978-468-5520 FAX 978-468-8014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator

RE: Town Administrator's Report

DATE: February 13, 2018

Police Department Reaccreditation

Last week, the Town received formal notification from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission that the Wenham Police Department has retained their accreditation status. Based on nationally recognized best practices in the profession, this designation acknowledges the very high standards that our officers meet in providing services to the residents in our community. We are one of just a handful of accredited departments on the North Shore, a designation the Department originally attained three years ago. Since this was the first time we sought reaccreditation, the extensive review process was targeted to check to ensure that the department is in compliance with the policies and procedures that it had established. Kudos to all members of the Department for continuing to set and meet a high bar.

Dodges Row / Spring Hill Subdivision

This project was approved by the Planning Board almost two years ago but had been delayed pending the state's final conservation approvals. In May 2017, the DEP issued a Superseding Order of Conditions that reduced the number of lots in this subdivision from 18 to 17 (including 2 affordable units). The Planning Board modified their decision to reflect these changes this past summer and the project is now set to move forward. A preconstruction meeting was held several weeks ago and DEP will be on site to check on erosion control measures later this week. Tree clearing for road construction, which will be fairly extensive, is expected to begin next week.

Property Exclusions from Mosquito Spraying

With the end of winter approaching, the Board of Health would like to remind residents of the procedure for excluding their property from mosquito spraying. Mosquito spraying only can occur by a vote of the Board of Health. The Board of Health would be notified by the Northeast Mosquito Control Board if any mosquitos collected and tested in the region had a positive result for any sort of mosquito carried disease. While this occurs infrequently in Wenham, it has occurred before. Residents who wish to be excluded if a spraying were to occur must request to be excluded every year.

There is a new process for requesting those exclusions. Previously, a hard copy form was required, by certified mail, to the Town Clerk's office every year by March 30. Now, residents can submit the form online or mail the exclusion form into the state on a rolling basis. Requests will go into effect fourteen (14) days after the exclusion request is received. This service is a part of a state program that also provides the town with mosquito testing, catch basin treatment, and public information services regarding mosquitos. The Northeast Control Board has multiple collection locations in Wenham and the region that are frequently tested for disease. More information can be found on the Board of Health website, by emailing permitting@wenhamma.gov or by calling 978-468-5520 ext. 4.